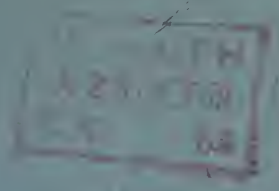


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DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1959

—oooOooo—





Public Health Department,  
West Hill House,  
West Hill,  
EPSOM,  
Surrey.

July, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an annual report for the year 1959, in accordance with the requirements set out in Ministry of Health Circular 1/60, which contains relevant references to Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

The general health of the community was good. There was, however, a rise in the number of deaths, mainly among elderly people in the first quarter of the year. For the fourth successive year there was an increase in the birth rate.

The year was uneventful so far as the incidence of infectious disease was concerned. Numerically the outbreak of measles, continued from the previous year, was the outstanding feature. There was an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever, a feature which has been noted in many other districts. There were no cases of poliomyelitis, diphtheria, typhoid or paratyphoid fevers.

The work of sanitary supervision of the district, the preparation of Slum Clearance Schemes and of the conditions under which food is prepared and distributed have been most efficiently carried out under the direction of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. Allan.

As usual, I have received every assistance when in need from the Chief Officers and staff of other departments of the Council. My thanks are due to the Council for the courtesy and consideration they have extended to me during the year, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their keen interest in the work of the Public Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1959 - 1960

Chairman of the Committee	Councillor O. Nicholson-Florence, A.S.
Vice-Chairman " "	" E. Lacy-Hulbert, F.R.S.A.
Members of " "	" W. E. A. Bull, P.P.R.I.C.
	" R. W. H. Covell, O.B.E.
	" Mrs. E. Davies
	" C. A. W. Robinson
	" J. W. Stemp

Ex Officio Members

Chairman of the Council	Councillor J.A. Irvine Edwards, J.P.
Vice-Chairman " "	" E. H. Simons

Representatives of the Council on

(1) Southern Divisional (Health) Sub-Committee

Councillor Mrs. E. Davies
" W. H. Etheridge
" J. H. Hardy, C.C.
" C. A. W. Robinson

(2) Dorking and District Tuberculosis Care Committee

Councillor W. H. Etheridge
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DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Cyrus Ive, M.B., B.S., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.O., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

+ D. Allan F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

+ A. E. Greensmith M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

+ T. P. Jarrett M.A.P.H.I. (to 17.8.59)

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Secretary/Clerk: Miss E. E. Nolan

Clerk/Telephonist: Mrs. M. E. Joseph

Junior Clerk: Miss G. F. Skidmore

Chief Public Health Inspector's Clerk

Mrs. E. Bloxham

Rodent Operator

G. Anscomb

+ Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate  
as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Staff act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley.





ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR  
THE YEAR 1959

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1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	9,511
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	20,252
Population (estimated mid-year 1959)			...	...	...	20,980
Density (persons per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	2.21
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1959				...	...	6,592
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959			...	...	...	£375,729
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,523

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total	312	151	161
Legitimate	303	147	156
Illegitimate	9	4	5

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	14.9
Standardised birth rate	15.8

Still Births

Total	3	2	1
Still birth rate per 1,000 live & still births			9.5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Total	11	8	3
Legitimate	11	8	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total			35.3
" " " " " " " - legitimate			36.3
" " " " " " " - illegitimate			-

Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births	16.0
--	------

Early Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births	16.0
---	------

Perinatal Mortality

Still births & deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live & Still births	25.4
--	------

Maternal Mortality

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births	-

Deaths

Total	279	140	139
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	13.3
Standardised death rate	...	...	11.6





## BIRTHS

Live births numbered 312 of which 151 were males and 161 females. The birth rate was 14.9 per 1,000 population compared with the rate of 14.0 for 1958, and is the highest since 1950.

Details such as age and sex distribution affect local birth rates and invalidate comparison with the rates of other populations. To overcome this a comparability factor (1.07) has been supplied by the Registrar General which, when applied to the crude birth rate, gives a figure which may be used for purposes of comparison. On application of this factor a standardised birth rate of 15.8 is obtained, compared with a rate of 16.5 for England and Wales.

Nine births, or 2.9% of the total, were illegitimate. The corresponding rate for the County of Surrey was 4.1.

## DEATHS

The deaths assigned to the district numbered 279, giving a crude death rate of 13.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The total included 140 males and 139 females, and was 25 more than in 1958.

A comparability factor (0.87) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate reduces it from 13.3 to 11.6. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.6. Approximately 53% of deaths took place in hospitals or nursing homes.

### Causes of Death

The causes of death are classified in Table III.

### Deaths from Road Accidents

Four residents died as a result of injuries received in road accidents. Two of the deceased were elderly pedestrians, both of whom were knocked down by motor cycles. A third was fatally injured when he fell from a pedal cycle after colliding with a pedestrian. The fourth accident occurred outside the district and resulted from a collision between a motor cyclist and a bus, the former receiving fatal injuries.

### Other Accidental Deaths

These numbered 5, and in 3 cases resulted from complications following falls sustained by elderly persons. In a fourth case a young child died from intracranial haemorrhage following a relatively slight fall and in the fifth, death resulted from natural causes accelerated by a road accident.

### Infant Mortality

There were 11 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, an increase of 7 on last year's low figure. The infant mortality rate was 35.3 per 1,000 live births. Five of these deaths occurred within 7 days of birth. Five were due to congenital malformations incompatible with prolonged life, 4 to prematurity, 1 to acute suppurative meningitis and 1 to abscesses of the liver of unknown cause.

### Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths of women associated with pregnancy.



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## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of population was 20,980 representing an increase of 250 on the previous year. Births exceeded deaths by 33. Since the Census was taken in 1951, there has been an estimated increase in population of 728.

Table I includes birth and death rates, with a comparison with the figures for 1958, and Table II gives a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.



HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Dorking General Hospital maintains approximately 250 beds for medical, surgical and maternity cases.

Patients requiring hospital treatment for infectious diseases may be admitted to one of a number of hospitals, none of which is situated in the district.

MOBILE CHEST RADIOGRAPHY  
Services for General Practitioners

For the purpose of dealing with cases referred to it by general practitioners, a mobile unit visited Dorking at weekly intervals throughout the year. It was thus possible for any patient having symptoms referable to abnormalities of the lungs to be examined with expedition and with a minimum of inconvenience. Four hundred and fifty-three people attended during the year and among these one case of pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 cases of lung cancer were detected.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

A laboratory service is available to medical practitioners at the local hospital. Examinations of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council located at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom. The staff of this laboratory also examine and report on the bacteriological conditions of samples of milk, food and water taken by the Public Health Department.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service:-

The main ambulance station for the area is the Smallfields Section of the Redhill County Hospital (telephone Smallfields 271) with a sub-station at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in any sudden illness in the streets or public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone, use the local Emergency Calling System). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife, who should travel with the patient in the ambulance.

The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Provided that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.







## PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, ambulance and domestic help, are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration has been delegated to the Southern Division Health Sub-Committee and its officers, with headquarters at Caberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill, (Tel. No. Redhill 3206).

For convenience of reference a time-table of clinics is set out on page 10.

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and vaccination against smallpox can be obtained from medical practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or on application at the County Council Health Centres.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is available to all persons under forty years of age. Expectant mothers and members of the health services are eligible for treatment at all ages.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is available for children of school leaving age, and for all children who have been in close contact with cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Details of the numbers treated in these various procedures will be found in Section 6 of this report.

## FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

A branch of the Family Planning Association is active in the district under the Chairmanship of Mrs. G. H. Woodman. It provides a weekly clinic at the Dorking General Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of methods of contraception to married persons, and with the investigation of cases of sub-fertility and with the solution of difficulties connected with marriage relationships.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases. Details of the nearest clinics are to be found on page 10.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the Act of 1948 gave power to local authorities to take steps to deal with persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity, who for one reason or another are not receiving proper care and attention, and who are unable to manage for themselves. As might be expected, the majority of these are old people who, in addition to physical



illness, have some loss of mental power sufficient to curtail their reasoning powers, but not serious enough to require their admission to hospitals for mental illness.

Under the 1948 Act, power was given to the local authority to apply to the Magistrates' Court for an Order to obtain the removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of a person found in such conditions. As the result of experience, it was found that the time taken to comply with the legal requirements of the Act in obtaining an Order for removal was so long that the practical value of the powers given by the Act to local authorities was curtailed. An amending Act which came into force in 1951 enabled authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

#### MORTUARY FACILITIES

The arrangement continued with the Leatherhead Urban District Council for the joint use of that Council's mortuary, and forty bodies were removed during the course of the year from the Dorking Urban District. In addition three bodies were taken to the Epsom mortuary. Twenty-two of the total were transferred from the mortuary of the Dorking General Hospital.

This arrangement, while adequate at the moment, will require reconsideration in the near future, as the demands on the Leatherhead Mortuary are increasing year by year with the rapid growth of that district.



# LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-natal Clinics	Dorking General Hospital.	Fri. 9.30 a.m.
	The Mansion House, Leatherhead.	Tues. 1.30 p.m.
	Epsom District Hospital.	Mon. & Thurs. 2 p.m.
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	Mon. & Wed. 2-4 p.m.
	Brockham Homes, Brockham.	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m.
	The Reading Room, Westcott.	2nd & 4th Mon. 2 p.m.
	The Brodie Hall, Boxhill.	2nd & 4th Wed. 2 p.m.
	The Village Hall, North Holmwood.	1st & 3rd Thurs. 2 p.m.
	The Mansion House, Leatherhead.	Fri. 2 p.m.
General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinic	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	Tues 9.30 a.m. Mon. 2 p.m.
	The Mansion House, Leatherhead.	Mon. 9.30 a.m.
Dental Clinic	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	By Appointment.
Speech Clinic	"	" "
Eye Clinic	"	" "
Remedial Exercises Clinic	"	" "
Chest Clinic	Dorking General Hospital.	Fri. 10 a.m.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Dorking General Hospital	Tues. 6 - 7.30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases Clinics	Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common.	Males: Mon. 5-7 p.m.
	Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.	Males: Tues. & Fri. 5-7 p.m.
		Females: Mon. 3-7 p.m. Thurs. 9.30-11 a.m.
(And at the Out-patient Department of many London Hospitals)		





### 3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

As mentioned in last year's report, the East Surrey Water Company became the sole water undertaking for the whole of the area from the beginning of 1959.

The sources of supply for the different parts of the Urban District still remain the same - that for Mickleham, Box Hill and Brockham being derived from borings into the chalk at Purley, Kenley and Leatherhead. The remainder of the district receives water which is obtained from artesian wells situated at the Water Works in Station Road, Dorking and derived from the lower greensand.

Despite the hot dry summer there was no evidence of any serious water shortage, thus confirming the observation made previously that the area is fortunate in the quality and adequacy of its water supplies.

Reports were received on 25 samples of the supplies, all of which were satisfactory.

The system of weekly sampling in rotation by the various local authorities of the districts served by the East Surrey Water Company has continued. Frequent examinations are also carried out under private arrangements made by the Company.

Typical results of chemical examinations of treated water are as follows. Chemical results in parts per million.

	Leatherhead Pumping Station	Dorking Pumping Station
Appearance	Bright, almost clear, with a minute deposit of chalk particles.	Bright, almost clear, with a few sand and black particles
Colour	Normal	Normal
Taste	Nil	Nil
pH	8.1	6.6
Electric Conductivity	300	310
Chlorides as Cl.	23	16
Hardness: total	115	142
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.3	6.2
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.034	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Metals: Iron, less than	0.01	Nil
Others	Nil	Nil
Turbidity less than	5	5
Odour	Nil	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	2	39
Total Solids	200	—
Alkalinity as		
Calcium Carbonate	68	88
Carbonate	68	88
Non-Carbonate	47	54
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed ( 3 hrs. at 37°C)	Nil	Nil
Residual Chlorine	0.17	0.17



Practically all the houses in the district are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally over a sink:-

Dwelling houses supplied by piped main supply	6,622
" " " " piped private supply	3
" " " " standpipes	13
" " " " wells	2
" " " " other means	2

To the above figures must be added the caravans and temporary structures which are either permanently occupied, or are used for holiday purposes. The sites where these dwellings are situated have adequate supplies from standpipes delivering water from the mains.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of house refuse continued throughout the year, although in July the Public Health Committee accepted a suggestion by Work Study Consultants that the Council should supply extra dustbins to premises in the more remote and outlying parts of the district and that only a fortnightly collection should be made from such premises. While this suggestion might have resulted in economies, to act upon it would have been a retrograde step from a public health point of view. Fortunately, however, when notice of the proposal was given to the persons who would have been affected, so many objections were received that it was decided to defer implementing the decision.

All house refuse collected was disposed of by controlled tipping. Precautions to prevent infestation of flies or other insect pests were carried out as usual - the working face being treated daily by the distribution of an insecticidal powder. Some minor rat infestations were dealt with by the Council's Rodent Operator in the course of his routine visits to the tip.

The weight of house refuse from the urban area desposited at the tip amounted to 5,403 $\frac{1}{4}$  tons. It is interesting to note that for the third consecutive year a decrease on the previous year's figures was recorded - this time of 263 $\frac{3}{4}$  tons. In view of the potential increase in bulk, to which reference was made last year, why this decrease in weight? One possible answer is that owing partly to the continuing installation of approved types of fuel economy grates, and partly to the replacement of solid fuel heating by oil, gas and electric heating appliances, house refuse has a constantly diminishing ash and cinder content.

Trade refuse, on the other hand, again showed an increase, this year of 21% on last year, the figure being 365 tons 1 cwt. No change has yet been made in the arrangements for trade refuse disposal. The Public Health Committee resolved to inform the Council that they favour the principle of collection of trade refuse in the district but deferred further action in the matter for the time being. In view of the comments which are made later under the heading "Air Pollution" it is to be hoped that more positive steps will not be long delayed.

Refuse accepted at the tip from adjacent parts of the Dorking and Horley Rural District totalled 1,114 tons 8 cwt - an increase of about 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons on last year.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Steady progress was made on contracts in connection with the Main Drainage Scheme, described in previous reports. By the end of the year the rising main on the Brockham to Pixham Outfall Works length had been completed, and the Castle Gardens Pumping Station was almost finished. Plant was being installed at the Pixham Works.





## Drainage and Sewerage (cont.)

The pipe line for the disposal of Box Hill cesspool contents was out of use for an appreciable time during the summer because of the many complaints of smell which were received. It was evident that the activities of the cesspool emptiers in connection with the discharge of its contents into the pipe line were not appreciated by a proportion of the public, whether resident on Box Hill or visitors to the district, particularly during the long hot spell of last summer. With the pipe out of action, the cesspool contents had to be brought down the zig-zag road to Westhumble where it was discharged into the sewer.

Apart from a few isolated areas in the district where dwellings are not connected to a sewer by reason of distance or impracticable levels, Box Hill Road, with its side-roads Ashurst Drive, Headley Heath Approach and Clump Avenue, is the only section of the Urban District where main drainage does not exist. The population living on Box Hill throughout the year is estimated to number 1,200. In the summer months, it is estimated that the total is raised to 2,000 by the influx of temporary residents. Until such time as main drainage is available serious nuisances are likely to arise from overflowing cesspools. Many complaints have been received in the Public Health Department. Moreover, it is known that undue economy in the use of water has to be exercised in some households in order to retard the filling of cesspools.

## CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Sites in respect of which licences issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising their use for moveable dwellings, numbered 14.

In addition, licences to erect or station and use a moveable dwelling were issued in respect of 8 such dwellings, situated on pieces of land other than licensed sites.

More than 300 caravans are permanently occupied, the majority being in the camp sites on Box Hill Road.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950.

During the year, 64 inspections of shops were made for the purpose of the Act. The conditions found and action taken are shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report, which also contains details of the record of all shops in the district.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Three privately owned open air swimming pools were open to the public during the summer months. The Public Health Inspectors made 60 visits.

Each pool is fitted with automatic chlorinating plants. In two cases the pools derive their water from main supplies: both have filtration plants and the water is re-circulated in approximately six hours. The third pool is filled from a private bore hole supply which on sampling was found to be bacteriologically satisfactory. Continuous pumping supplies 2,000 gallons of fresh water per hour, this being automatically chlorinated, and an equivalent amount is displaced and flows to waste. Once a week the pool is completely emptied, scrubbed down with a sterilising solution, and refilled.

In all, 54 samples were taken from the three pools and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, on 52 of which the reports were satisfactory.





## Swimming Baths and Pools (cont.)

One of the two unsatisfactory samples showed a plate count of 125 per ml., though coliform bacilli were 0 per 100 ml., and the other sample contained coliform bacilli - 13 per 100 ml. In the first case steps were taken to ensure more adequate chlorination, and subsequent sampling indicated that this was effective. While in the second case, the owner of the pool immediately called in the plant manufacturers to dismantle and overhaul the filtration plant, cascade and pump, after which no further trouble was experienced.

## AIR POLLUTION

Having regard to the nature of the urban district, with a low density of population, with no large or even small factories depending on solid fuel boilers for their motive power, and amply provided with open spaces, one would not expect to find much trouble under the above heading.

In actual fact, however, there have been two distinct types of "trouble", and in consequence, your Public Health Inspectors had to spend much more time on this aspect of the work than would be normal in this district.

Several complaints were received about the burning of trade refuse by certain firms in the central area of the town, causing nuisance to the occupiers of other shops and of living accommodation over shops.

Upon investigation by the Inspectors, most of the complaints were found to be justified. In practically every instance, the offenders contended that burning was the only way left to them to get rid of their refuse in view of the Council's refusal to collect. It was suggested that private contractors should be approached, but the reply received, and subsequently confirmed, was that only one was willing to make collections, and that would be only once a fortnight. Although one or two of the firms concerned were firms dealing in food with their own delivery vans, the vehicles contained a certain amount of fixed shelving, and it would have been impossible to carry out thorough cleansing after use for taking refuse bins to the tip. In any case, such use, having regard to the need to improve food hygiene practice, could not be advocated by any Public Health Department.

The Clean Air Act has received a considerable amount of publicity in the Press, and on radio and television. Should this nuisance from burning refuse increase, it may be that action will have to be taken against the offenders, yet any of your Inspectors giving evidence on legal proceedings in this matter would find themselves in a most awkward position, for the solution is obvious, and lies in the Council's own hands, - the provision of a trade refuse collection service.

The other matter to be mentioned under this heading of "Air Pollution" is much more difficult of solution.

Since the enlargement of the Urban District by the Survey Review Order of 1931, North Holmwood has been a part of the district. The North Holmwood Brickworks, throughout the years from its inclusion in the area until the latter part of 1958, used coal for the firing of the brick kilns, and during this period no complaints were received from the residents in the neighbourhood of the works of any nuisance from smoke or grit emission. In November, 1958, the firm changed from coal to oil firing, and from the beginning of February, 1959, complaints were received by the Chief Public Health Inspector to the effect that black oily smuts were affecting washing hung out in the gardens of houses in the roads near the Brickworks.



## Air Pollution (cont.)

The Chief Public Health Inspector will deal more fully in his section of the Report with the investigations carried out, but it should be noted here that the complaints were confined to the damage caused to clothing, and in one or two cases to garden produce. At the time of preparing this Report no substantial evidence had been received of any injury to health despite enquiries of those concerned with the health services in the area.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The number of premises registered under the above Act is two, no fresh applications having been received during the year.

## SCHOOLS

As in past years the Surrey County Council Education Department made arrangements with the Chief Public Health Inspector for the treatment of school canteens and kitchens for the prevention of flies and other insect and rodent pests. Visits were also made in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

At St. Joseph's School, Falkland Grove, new water closets, wash-hand basins and drinking fountains were provided.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The Council's Rodent Operator also deals with bed-bugs and other insect pests, under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector, who gives full details of the year's work.

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

- (1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors:-

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	22	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	26	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	3	—	—



# Inspection of Factories (cont.)

## (2) Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	re-mo-died	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspec-tor	by H.M. Inspec-tor	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-

## (3) Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No of Out-workers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110(1)(c)	Section 110		Section 111		Prosecutions
		No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Noti-ces served	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel (making etc. cleaning and washing)	5	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	-	-	-	-	-

## (4) The factories on the register are classified as follows:-

	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Power</u>
Aerated Water	1	-
Agricultural Engineers	1	-
Bacon Curing	1	-
Bakehouses	5	1
Book Binding	1	-
Boot Repairs	3	2
Bottle Top Manufacturer	1	-
Brickmaking	1	-
Builders, Engineering and Joinery	7	2







Inspection of Factories (cont.)

	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Power</u>
Cable Making	1	-
Concrete Paving Stones	1	-
Cabinet Repairs	-	1
Cleaning and Pressing	3	-
Coach Building	2	-
Cooker and Meter Repairs	1	-
Crumpets	1	-
Dispensing Opticians	-	1
Electrical Contractors	1	-
Electricity Generating Station	1	-
Engineering (General)	13	-
Fertiliser Compounding	1	-
Fish Curing	-	1
Flour Mills	1	-
Gasholder Station	1	-
Laundries	1	-
Monumental Masons	-	1
Motor Vehicle Repairs	14	2
Pencil Manufacturers	-	1
Printing	4	-
Provender Mills	1	-
Radio Engineers	3	3
Sausage Manufacturers	5	-
Sheet Metal	1	-
Silk Screen Printing	2	-
Slaughterhouses	1	2
Tailoring	2	4
Tent Making	1	-
Ticket Printing	1	-
Timber Merchants	2	-
Upholsterers, etc.	3	1
Wheelbarrows	1	-

The names and addresses of four out-workers in the wearing apparel trade were notified, two from other authorities, two from a local firm. In addition, the names and addresses of three out-workers appearing on the August list submitted by a local firm were forwarded to the districts in which they resided.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisances discovered and the action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, with the results obtained.



HOUSING

Seventy-six dwellings were erected by the Local Authority during the year, twenty-three of these being flats and maisonnetts provided by the re-development of the Cotmandene Clearance Area site, and the balance being houses, maisonnetts and flats built in the continuing stages of the Goodwyns Estate development. The Council's estates now comprise 1,118 houses, maisonnetts and flats and five shops with flats over.

Eighty houses were built by private enterprise, and six units provided by the conversion of three properties.

## 5.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMILK

The Chief Public Health Inspector continued to act as the agent of the County Medical Officer for the purpose of inspection, supervision and sampling at the pasteurising plant which is established in the district.

In addition, routine sampling was carried out of pasteurised milk which is available from four sources outside the Urban District.

Full details of this aspect of the Department's work are given later by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continues to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 60 samples for analysis were taken in this district. These included 42 samples of milk, the remainder consisting of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs and drugs. The information was also given that within the area of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs authority, a total of 966 samples were taken for analysis, including 703 of milk. Thirty-four samples were found to be below standard, 12 of these being of milk. Successful legal proceedings were taken against one farmer for selling Channel Islands Milk deficient in milk fat, and against a provision merchant for selling chicken and veal pie as "Chicken Pie".

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. ICE-CREAM AND FOOD HYGIENE

The results of inspections of food premises, action taken and progress achieved are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.



Included in Table I are the incidence and death rates of infectious diseases. Incidence rates are estimated per 1,000 population with the exception of the rate for puerperal pyrexia, which is based on 1,000 live and still births. Figures for 1958 are reproduced for purposes of comparison.

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious disease (except tuberculosis) notified during 1959, classified according to disease, age and sex. Table VI gives similar details for tuberculosis.

### SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

#### Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year notifications were received from medical practitioners of 167 primary vaccinations and 50 re-vaccinations which had been performed by them. Of the primary vaccinations 137 related to children under the age of one year, equivalent to 43.9% of the number of births registered in the district during the year. This compares with a recent estimated vaccination rate of 44.5% for England and Wales. The comparative figure for Dorking in 1958 was 53% and for England and Wales 43%.

### SCARLET FEVER

Nineteen cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with 6 in the previous year. The incidence rate was 0.9 per 1,000 population.

Fortunately the increase in numbers was not associated with any increase in virulence of the infection. The rise in incidence was not confined to this locality, but occurred over a large part of the country.

### DIPHTHERIA

For the twelfth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified in the district.

Reference to Table V indicates the decline which has taken place in the incidence of this disease since 1934.

#### Immunisation against Diphtheria

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or at clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals in various parts of the district and of which details are set out on page 10. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools have been organised by the Divisional School Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment, usually the reinforcing course. The aim is for every child to receive the primary treatment within its first year of life, and to be given reinforcing treatments at intervals up to the end of school life. It is not claimed that absolute immunity will be attained for every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is thirty times as great.





## Diphtheria Immunisation (cont.)

Although no case of diphtheria has been notified in the Dorking Urban District for over twelve years, there has recently been an increase in the incidence of this disease in several parts of the country, including the London area. Immunisation against diphtheria, therefore, retains its importance in the immunisation programme, as one of the diseases which can be controlled by artificial means. Other diseases in the programme are smallpox, against which vaccination is desirable in early childhood; whooping cough, which is often most severe and dangerous in young infants and against which treatment should be concluded within six months of birth; poliomyelitis, which is at its most commonest, if not at its severest, in the early years, and therefore must be included in the immunisation programme in the first year. Tetanus, although a rare disease now, requires consideration before the end of the first year. Fortunately it is possible to combine the treatment against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in one series of injections. When treatment is given as early as suggested above, single reinforcing doses are required in the second year of life of the combined vaccine against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and of poliomyelitis vaccine.

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 243 children received primary treatment and 39 reinforcing treatment. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Treatment</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	103	14
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>140</u>	<u>25</u>
	243	39

At the end of the year it was estimated that 43% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated in the period 1955-59 and were still in an effective state of immunity. The comparable local figure for 1958 was 56% and for England and Wales in the same year 54%. The fall in this immunity index figure was due to a large reduction in the number of reinforcing treatments given to school children. This was no doubt caused by the pre-occupation of the school medical service with the scheme of vaccination against poliomyelitis.

## WHOOPING COUGH

No case of whooping cough was notified during 1959.

## Immunisation against Whooping Cough

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 256 children had received treatment. In 216 children the primary treatment was combined with immunisation against diphtheria and in 196 of these immunisation against tetanus was also included.

## MEASLES

Two hundred and fifty-six cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 337 in 1958. The incidence rate was 12.2 per 1,000 population. No death from the disease was recorded.



## FOOD POISONING

Fourteen cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, all caused by the organisms of the Salmonella Typhi-murium group. Nine cases formed part of a series which occurred in patients under treatment for various ailments in the Dorking General Hospital. This troublesome outbreak commenced in the previous year, and continued at intervals for the first six months of this year despite the efforts of the hospital medical staff to determine the origin of the infection.

The remaining five cases all occurred in members of a single household.

## ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

For the second year in succession no case of poliomyelitis was notified.

### Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis must now take first place in the means of prevention of this disease. It is too early yet to know how effective the vaccine at present in use will be, and it will be a few years before a complete picture can be obtained of the efficiency and duration of its protective powers. In spite of this, and taking into consideration the malignant nature of the disease and the ineffectiveness of other methods of controlling it, everyone eligible to apply for treatment should do so at the earliest opportunity. The upper age limit has now been extended from 25 years to 40 years of age. Expectant mothers, members of health, hospital and nursing services and travellers abroad can apply for the treatment whatever their age.

I am indebted to Dr. T. H. Bingham, Divisional Medical Officer, Southern Division of the Surrey County Council, for the following information relating to vaccination against poliomyelitis of residents of the Urban District during the year 1959.

Persons born in years 1933-43	1,304
Children born in years 1944-59	1,203
Expectant mothers	149
General Practitioners and their families	2
Ambulance personnel and their families	4
Third injections	3,156

The number treated in the previous year was 3,204 and the total since the scheme commenced is 5,860.

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Eight cases were notified, giving an incidence rate of 25.4 per 1,000 live and still births compared with a rate of 10.1 in 1958. All the notifications were received from the maternity unit of the Dorking General Hospital, five related to patients who were admitted for their confinements from addresses outside the Dorking Urban District.



## TETANUS

No case of tetanus was reported during the year. However, this condition is not notifiable and it is possible for the illness to occur without coming to the notice of the Public Health Department, unless it should proceed to a fatal termination.

### Immunisation against Tetanus

The County Council's immunisation arrangements now include treatment against tetanus. This may be given separately or may be combined with the agents used for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, and may be obtained from the family doctor or from a children's clinic. During the year 205 children were immunised against tetanus for the first time, and of these 196 were treated simultaneously against diphtheria and whooping cough. In 1958 the number treated was 135.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### Register of Notified Persons

During the year the names of 22 persons were added to the tuberculosis register, and 28 were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:-

#### Additions to Register

#### Removals from Register

Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in the district	9
Transfer of persons notified in other areas, now residing in this district	<u>13</u>
	<u>22</u>

By removals to other districts	11
By recovery	14
By death	3 +
	<u>28</u>

+ In none of these cases was the cause of death attributed to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was 99 compared with 105 in the previous year.

### Notification of Tuberculosis

Nine notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis were received from medical practitioners. These concerned residents of the district in which the active disease was recognised for the first time. In Table VI they are classified by sex and age and in Table VII the figures are compared with those of previous years.

### Deaths from Tuberculosis

For the second year in succession no death from tuberculosis was assigned to the district. The death rate for tuberculosis for England and Wales was 0.08.

Table VII illustrates the trend which the mortality figures for tuberculosis have assumed in recent years. This can be regarded with satisfaction and as evidence of the increasing effectiveness of the preventive and remedial measures taken against the disease.





## Tuberculosis (cont.)

These results reflect the improvement which has taken place in the methods of treatment of tuberculosis by streptomycin, para-aminosalicylic acid and isoniazid. Infectivity as well as mortality is reduced by these agents. If everyone with persistent respiratory symptoms took advantage of the existing facilities the number of infected persons at large in the community in a condition dangerous to other people would be rapidly reduced. The benefit of early diagnosis and treatment would be apparent at once to the patient by the improvement in his health, and to the community by the reduction of the number of new cases resulting from the curtailment of his period of infectivity.

### B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

This treatment is available at Chest Clinics for contacts in the families of tuberculous persons, if preliminary testing shows that they have not already been infected. It is also offered to children approaching school leaving age.

The treatment in schools is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer who has provided the following figures in relation to the work done in local schools in 1959.

Communications were sent to the parents of school children ascertained to be in the age group concerned, with the following results:-

Number offered treatment	257
Number consenting	141 (equivalent to 55% of total)
Number vaccinated	120 (equivalent to 47% of total)

Of the 141 children for whom consents were obtained, 13 failed to attend for examination and 8 were found to be positive to the preliminary Mantoux test, and were therefore excluded from the treatment.

### Mass Radiography

Information has been received from the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service that the experimental scheme mentioned in the report of last year has been continued. As a result a Unit has visited Dorking each week on Wednesdays from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m., setting up at the rear of the Dorking Halls. Its purpose is to encourage the X-ray examination of patients attending their doctors with symptoms referable to diseases of the chest. Four hundred and fifty-three persons were referred to the Unit, with the result that three were found to be suffering from cancer of the lung and one from pulmonary tuberculosis.

### Tuberculosis Care Committee

There is a voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee in Dorking which works in close association with the staff of the Chest Clinic. The Council were represented on the Care Committee during the year by Councillor W. H. Etheridge.



TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES AND INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEARS 1958 and 1959

	1958	1959
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births (Crude)	14.0	14.9
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes (Crude)	12.3	13.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-
Influenza	-	0.24
Smallpox	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Pneumonia	0.58	0.86
Measles	-	-
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Scarlet Fever	0.29	0.91
Whooping Cough	0.58	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	16.26	12.20
Pneumonia	0.10	-
Poliomyelitis      Paralytic	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-
Food Poisoning	0.34	0.67
Dysentery	0.43	0.05
Tuberculosis      Respiratory	0.10	0.38
Non-Respiratory	0.10	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>		
Under 1 year of age	13.8	35.3
Under 4 weeks of age (Neonatal)	13.8	16.0
Under 1 week of age (Early Neonatal)		16.0
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live &amp; Still) Births</u>		
Still Births	26.8	9.5
Perinatal Mortality		25.4
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	10.1	25.4
Maternal Mortality	-	-





TABLE II

## COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931 - 1959

## DECENNIAL AVERAGES 1931 - 1950. ANNUAL 1951 - 1959

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate of children under 1 year of age, per 1,000 live births		
	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District	No. of Infant Deaths
1931-1940	14.9	14.4	12.2	12.2	58	31.0	
1941-1950	16.9	16.8	12.3	12.7	43	29.2	7
1951	15.5	13.6	12.5	12.8	29.7	25.6	6
1952	15.3	14.1	11.3	12.4	27.6	21.2	2
1953	15.5	13.6	11.4	13.4	26.8	7.9	10
1954	15.2	13.5	11.3	11.2	25.4	36.4	6
1955	15.0	10.8	11.7	11.1	24.9	27.3	10
1956	15.6	13.2	11.7	13.7	23.7	36.9	3
1957	16.1	13.9	11.5	11.7	23.1	10.5	4
1958	16.4	14.0	11.7	12.3	22.5	13.8	11
1959	16.5	14.9	11.6	13.3	22.0	35.3	

+

Bracketed figures represent standardised rates.



TABLE III

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

	M	F	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	-	-	-
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	-	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	13	-	13
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	6	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	11	26
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
16. Diabetes	-	4	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	22	36
18. Coronary disease angina	31	18	49
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	17	23	40
21. Other circulatory disease	3	7	10
22. Influenza	1	4	5
23. Pneumonia	8	10	18
24. Bronchitis	4	4	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	2	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	13	25
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
34. All other accidents	1	4	5
35. Suicide	-	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-



TABLE IV

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY AGE AND SEX

(FOR TUBERCULOSIS SEE TABLE VI)

	Under 1 year	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 years & over	All ages	Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	1	2	7	1	1	-	-	12	7	19
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	26	41	67	6	1	-	-	142	114	256
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polionyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	4	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	7	7	14
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8





TABLE V

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT 1934-1959

(QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES 1934 - 1958)

Year	Total number of cases notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	30	0.36	0.048
1939 - 1943	12	0.12	0.022
1944 - 1948	2	0.02	-
1949 - 1953	-	-	-
1954 - 1958	-	-	-
1959	-	-	-



TABLE VI

## NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

	Primary notifications relating to persons resident in the Dorking Urban District			Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other areas now resident in Dorking Urban District						<u>Deaths</u>			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
1 — 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
5 — 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
10 — 14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
15 — 19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
20 — 24	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
25 — 34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
35 — 44	1	1	—	—	2	4	2	—		—	—	—	—
45 — 54	2	2	—	—	3	1	—	—		—	—	—	—
55 — 64	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
65 years & over	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
	5	4	—	—	8	5	—	—		—	—	—	—



TABLE VII

## TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY 1934-1959

Quinquennial averages 1934-1958

Year	Number of primary notifications	Notification Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths Total	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	12	0.73	6	0.41
1939 - 1943	16	0.83	6	0.33
1944 - 1948	16	0.85	8	0.43
1949 - 1953	15	0.77	5	0.27
1954 - 1958	11	0.58	1	0.07
1959	9	0.43	-	-





URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1959

Public Health Inspectors' Office,  
Council Offices,  
Pippbrook,  
Dorking.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Annual Report on the work of your Public Health Inspectors during the year 1959.

Last year, in the 1958 Report, I commented that it had been possible to give a "reasonably adequate coverage" to all aspects of the work. This, unfortunately, was far from being the position during 1959. Mr. Jarrett, who had joined the staff as Second Additional Public Health Inspector in November 1957, left in August 1959 to take up a post in Uganda. Despite several advertisements in the technical press, no suitable applications had been received by the end of the year.

This deficiency in staff for a period of four and a half months had the obvious effect - routine matters such as the inspection of shops and factories suffered neglect, others - food hygiene, for instance, did not get the follow-up attention which is really essential to achieve good and lasting results. The inspection of meat and food, however, was still treated as a priority, and 100% inspection of animals killed at the local slaughterhouses was maintained. The number killed, incidentally, showed a 24% increase on the previous year.

The new system of standard grants, introduced in June under Part II of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, to supplement the system of "discretionary" improvement grants, did not result in any great rush of applications for such grants, but rather in a slow trickle. Final inspections carried out after completion of improvements under both types of grant show them to be well worth-while.

In general, the following pages summarise the reports made to meetings of the Public Health Committee. I take this opportunity of conveying to the Chairman and Members of the Committee my thanks for their acceptance of my reports, and the support given to recommendations for action in the cases submitted.

Dr. Ive has continued to give advice and guidance whenever necessary, and so far as Pippbrook is concerned, I think that the inter-departmental relationship, with the co-operation which results, could serve as an example to many other districts. Finally, my particular thanks are due to my own staff.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

D. ALLAN.

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## INSPECTIONS AND REINSPECTIONS

The number of visits and inspections carried out during the year is summarised as follows:-

### General Sanitation -

Water Supply	5
Drainage	515
Stables and Piggeries	2
Air Pollution	103
Fried Fish Shops	4
Houses-let-in-lodgings	2
Tents, Vans, and Sheds	617
Camp Sites	43
Factories	26
Workshops	1
Workplaces	2
Outworkers	1
Pet Animals Act, 1951	6
Swimming Pools	60
Refuse Collection - Dustbins	22
Refuse Disposal - Accumulations	37
Rats and Mice (Visits by Rodent Operator)	6756
Wasps' Nests	584
Schools	3
Shops	64
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	522
Unsuccessful Visits	338

### Housing -

#### Under Public Health Acts:

No. of houses inspected	44
No. of re-inspections	153

#### Under Housing Acts:

No. of houses inspected	28
No. of re-inspections	179

#### Under Rent Act, 1957:

No. of houses inspected	25
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#### Verminous Premises:

No. of houses inspected	2
No. of re-inspections	1

Miscellaneous Housing Visits	168
------------------------------	-----

Improvement Grant Visits	44
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### Infectious Diseases -

Inquiries in cases of infectious diseases	21
Visits re. disinfection	4
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	8
Food Poisoning Enquiries	39

### Meat and Food Inspection -

#### Inspection of Meat:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	668
Visits to Shops and Stalls	7
Visits to Other Premises	3

#### Visits to:

Butchers	16
Canteens	6
Dairies & Milk Distributors	61
Fishmongers & Poulterers	21
Food Preparing Premises	41
Grocers	110
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	14
Ice-cream Premises	21
Market Stalls	82



Meat and Food Inspections - continued --

Visits to:

Restaurants	16
Street Vendors & Hawkers' Carts	53
Wholesalers	48
Hospitals	25
Clubs	2
Licensed Premises	8
Bakeries	6

Visits in Connection with Sampling -

Milk - Bacteriological	125
Water - Bacteriological	59
Miscellaneous Samples	3
Miscellaneous Food Visits	5
Food Hygiene Visits	126
	<hr/>
	11,955
	<hr/>

NOTICES ISSUED AND ACTION TAKEN

The Notices served and the results of such action are given in their respective categories, but the total summary (excluding action taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955) is as follows:-

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1959	19
Issued during the year	43
Complied with during the year	32
Cancelled during the year	3
Statutory Action necessary	9
Outstanding on 31st December, 1959	18

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1959	6
Issued during the year	14
Complied with during the year	13
Outstanding on 31st December, 1959	7

COMPLAINTS

Six hundred and twenty-one complaints were received from the public as follows:-

Dampness, defective roofs, etc.	24
Defective floors and woodwork, etc.	3
Other defects - houses	25
Defective cesspools	8
Drainage of houses	15
Drainage of other premises	2
Rats and Mice	227
Unsound Food	29
Defective dustbins	2
Nuisance from smell	17
Air pollution	5
Ants	9
Beetles	4
Mosquitoes	1
Woodworm	1
Wasps' Nests	215
Miscellaneous insect pests	22
Miscellaneous	12
	<hr/>
	621
	<hr/>





# DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED, NUISANCES ABATED ETC.

The inspection of dwelling houses, etc., and consequent action resulted in the following conditions being found and remedied.

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
<u>Drainage -</u>		
Cesspools - defective	3	3
Cesspools - overflowing	3	3
Curbing around gullies defective	-	1
Drains defective	20	21
Gullies defective	2	3
<u>Pipes -</u>		
Rainwater pipes - defective	1	1
Rainwater pipes - new required	1	2
Soil/vent. pipes - defective	1	1
Waste-pipes - new required	2	2
<u>Sewers -</u>		
Public sewers - choked or defective	2	2
Private sewers - choked or defective	1	1
<u>Sinks -</u>		
New required	1	-
Surround requires pointing	1	1
<u>Water Closets -</u>		
Chamber (walls, roof etc.) defective	5	2
Flushing cistern - defective	3	2
Pans - defective or dirty	2	1
Pans - new required	2	3
<u>Water Supply -</u>		
Cisterns	-	1
Supply pipes	3	3
<u>Yards and Passages -</u>		
Require paving and/or drainage	1	-
<u>General Defects -</u>		
Ceilings defective	1	1
Chimney stacks defective	2	2
Defective doors	5	3
"    door frames	3	4
"    door thresholds	2	3
"    dustbins	4	4
"    eavesgutters	4	11
"    floors	4	3
Kitchen ranges and ovens defective	1	2
Internal walls - plastering required	2	5
Ceilings require plastering	2	6
Roofs - defective	10	12
Roofs - require stripping and reroofing	3	2
Skirtings defective	1	1
Stair-treads and risers defective	1	1
Steps (external) defective	2	2
Ventilation inadequate	-	1
Walls - damp	9	4
Walls - brickwork defective	1	2
Walls - external rendering defective	3	3
Windows - defective	4	4
Window frames defective	3	3
Window cills defective	4	2
Window sashcords defective	1	3
Window glazing putty defective	1	2
Other Nuisances	-	1



NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH DURING THE YEAR  
AND NOTICES OUTSTANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959

(1) Housing Act, 1957 -

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1959	5
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1959	1
No. of Preliminary Notices served	1
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	2
No. of Preliminary Notices cancelled	-
No. of Statutory Notices served	-
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	1
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1959	4
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1959	-

(2) Public Health Act, 1936 -

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Other Premises</u>	<u>Dust-bins</u>
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1959	9	1	-
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1959	4	-	1
No. of Preliminary Notices served	34	5	2
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	23	4	1
Statutory Action necessary	8	1	-
No. of Statutory Notices served	14	-	-
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	11	-	1
Action in Default	-	-	-
No. of Preliminary Notices cancelled	3	-	-
No. of Statutory Notices cancelled	-	-	-
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1959	9	1	1
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1959	7	-	-

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

- (a) Six hundred and sixty-eight visits were made to the three licensed slaughterhouses in the district, for the purposes of meat inspection, and the result of that inspection is summarised in Tables "A", "B" and "C".

The two cases of *Cysticercus bovis* which were found were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, together with the names and addresses of the farmers entering the animals for sale.



MEAT INSPECTION

TABLE "A".

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Swine	TOTAL
Number killed	569	427	225	2266	3106	6593
Number inspected	569	427	225	2266	3106	6593
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	4	4	6	17
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	108	124	2	36	120	390
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci.	19.16	29.74	2.66	1.77	4.06	
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	2	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	-	-	-	-	0.06	
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS:</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	-	-	-	2
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	1	-	-	-	2
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was -  
2 tons. 11 cwts. 3 qtrs. 22 lbs. 8 ozs.





TABLE "B".

MEAT INSPECTION - REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

DESCRIPTION	Number Slaughtered	Tuber-culosis		Other Diseases										TOTAL		
		Generalised	Localised	Abscesses	Actinomycosis and Actinobacillosis	Bruising and Oedema	C. bovis	Other Cysts and Parasitic Infections	Diseases of the liver	Injuries	Swine Erysipelas	Pericarditis	Peritonitis and Pleurisy		Septicaemia	Miscellaneous Diseases
BOVINES (excluding calves)	996	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	3
Whole carcasses and offal		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Part carcasses		-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Heads and tongues		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hearts		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Livers and part livers		-	-	18	-	-	-	8	188	-	-	-	5	-	1	220
CALVES	225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Whole carcasses and offal		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Livers and part livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
SHEEP	2266	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Whole carcasses and offal		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Heads and tongues		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Livers and part livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Kidneys		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PIGS	3106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whole carcasses and offal		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1
Part carcasses		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Heads and tongues		-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4
Hearts		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	38
Livers and part livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	65	6	-	-	-	13	-	-	85
Mesentery and Intestines		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL:-	6593	-	2	23	4	4	2	102	200	2	-	23	62	8	15	447



TABLE "C".

## WEIGHTS OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD

	Whole Carcase and Offal	Part Carcase	Head and Tongue	Heart	Lungs	Liver	Mesentery	Kidneys	TOTALS
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
(a) TUBERCULOSIS:									
Bovines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigs	-	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	34
(b) OTHER DISEASES:									
Bovines	1583	152	118	12	29	2805½	-	-	4699½
Pigs	497	31	25	19	45	213	1	-	831
Sheep	177	-	4	-	-	72	-	1	254
(c) TOTAL WEIGHTS - ALL DISEASES:									
Bovines	1583	152	118	12	29	2805½	-	-	4699½
Pigs	497	31	59	19	45	213	1	-	865
Sheep	177	-	4	-	-	72	-	1	254
TOTALS:-	2257	183	181	31	74	3090½	1	1	5818½



(b) Meat (inspected in shops) and Other Foods -

Examination revealed that the following foodstuffs were unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

	Tins	Bottles and Jars	Weight			
			Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Beef: English	-	-	-	2	23	-
Offal: Imported	-	-	-	2	14	-
Bacon & Ham	-	-	-	1	6	8
Tinned Hams	-	-	-	3	19	-
Canned Meat	-	-	6	2	9	$-\frac{3}{4}$
Biscuits	-	-	-	-	24	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Cake	-	-	-	-	27	8
Sweets	-	-	-	-	16	12
Chocolate	-	-	-	1	10	8
Fish	53	-	1	3	18	-
Fruit	1010	-	-	1	17	-
Cereal	59	-	-	-	25	2
Milk	125	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	727	-	-	-	-	-
Soup	226	-	-	-	-	-
Preserves	7	5	-	-	-	-
Savouries	9	-	-	-	-	-
Pickles & Sauces	11	29	-	-	-	-
Cream	18	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit Juice	19	-	-	-	-	-
Puddings	22	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL:-</u>	2286	34	12	2	14	$15\frac{1}{4}$

(c) Milk -

(i) Samples:

During the year 156 samples of milk retailed in the Urban District were taken by the Public Health Inspectors, and the results are summarised overleaf:-





(c)(i) Samples - continued -

Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:	Satis:	Unsatis:
130	130	-	130	-

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:	Satis:	Unsatis:
26	26	-	26	-

(ii) Milk sold under Special Designations:

The following licences for the sale of designated milks, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year:-

(a) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

Dealer's licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk 5  
Supplementary licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk 3

(b) Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953

Dealer's licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk 8  
Dealer's licence to sell "Sterilised" milk 10  
Supplementary licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk 3  
Supplementary licence to sell "Sterilised" milk 2

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

This Act, which consolidates various enactments containing provisions which relate to the licensing of slaughtermen, methods of slaughter and the securing of humane conditions in slaughterhouses and knackers' yards, came into operation on the 18th January, 1959.

Ten licences were issued during the year to slaughtermen who had previously held licences, and one licence was issued to an applicant subject to a condition that he should not slaughter except under the supervision of a licensed slaughterman.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

1. Hygiene in connection with the sale, etc., of food to the Public:

The table below hardly reflects an accurate picture of the situation at the end of the year, for the majority of the contraventions shown as being carried forward no longer existed, yet, as some premises were still involved with structural work to effect remedies, all contraventions found on such premises remain on our records until the time when a complete clearance is effected in respect of each establishment.

The disadvantage of this method of recording is that on the face of it, it would appear that some unhygienic practices have been allowed to continue. The advantage, however, is that although in fact such practices have now ceased, to keep them "on the books" till the whole of a job is finished reminds the Inspector to make a particular check on those items in respect of which a firm has previously been found wanting.

There were no legal proceedings under the Act or the Regulations during the year.

REGULATION NO:	CONTRAVENTIONS			
	Carried forward 31.12.58.	Found	Remedied	Carried forward 31.12.59.
5	-	1	-	1
6	4	2	1	5
8	3	-	-	3
9	1	-	1	-
14	3	-	2	1
15	1	-	-	1
16	9	3	7	5
17	2	-	1	1
18	5	1	4	2
19	5	6	4	7
20	1	-	-	1
21	1	-	-	1
23	10	3	8	5
25	1	-	-	1
26	2	-	2	-
28	1	-	1	-

The register of food premises now includes the following, which are classified in accordance with the main heading of goods sold (e.g. a grocer who also sells bread is classified under "grocer" only):-

Bread and Cake shops (including premises with bakehouses)	7
Butchers	15
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	14

c/f 43



1. Food Hygiene - continued -

	b/f	43
Grocers		50
Sweet Confectioners		14
Vegetarian Stores		1
Food Manufactories		4
Catering Establishments:-		
Restaurants, Cafés and Snack Bars	35	
Public Houses and Hotels	40	
Office and Works Canteens	20	
Private Schools and		
Children's Homes	7	
School Canteens	13	
Nursing Homes and Institutions	4	
Clubs	6	
Students' Hostel	1	
		<u>126</u>
Total:-		<u>238</u>

2. Premises Registered under Section 16:

Manufacture of sausages .....	16
Manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food .....	14
Storage and sale of ice-cream .....	96
Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream .....	2

As in the last few years, neither of the two registered for manufacture produced their own ice-cream, but continued to buy prepacked brands.

3. Registered under Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:

The entries on the register at the end of the year may be summarised as follows:-

Number of Dairies	3
Number of Distributors with premises within the Urban District	9

Under Regulation 8(1) of the 1959 Regulations the registration of distributors whose premises are outside the Urban District is no longer required, but it is known that six such distributors are trading within the area.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year 64 visits were made for the purposes of this Act. This is far from an adequate number, and may be attributed to the difficulties arising from staff shortage in the Department. Fortunately, however, it would appear that in these days the pressure of commercial competition with its need to attract potential customers, plus another need - that of attracting and keeping staff - results in many alterations and improvements being carried out, and in consequence there is little call for any official action under the Act. When any plans of proposed alterations are submitted to the Surveyor, our system of inter-departmental co-operation affords the opportunity of commenting on any aspects of the proposals which fall short of the necessary provision of sanitary arrangements as mentioned in Section 38 of the Act.

The Register of Shops totals 375 premises (including licensed premises) as set out overleaf. Each of these is classified under the main heading of goods sold:





Shops Act - continued -

Antiques	7
Books	2
Boots and Shoes (Sales)	9
Boots and Shoes (Repairs & Accessories)	10
Bread and Cakes	7
Butchers	15
Children's Wear	2
China and Glass	2
Chemists	8
Coal Order Offices	2
Corn and Seed	2
Cycle Repairs	2
Decorators' Sundries	2
Drapers and Haberdashers	8
Dyers and Cleaners	7
Electrical, Radio and Television	10
Fancy Goods	5
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Flooring Specialists	1
Florists	3
Furnishers	8
Furriers	1
Grocers and General Stores	14
Gas Appliances	1
Glass Merchant	1
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	14
Grocers	36
Hairdressers	14
Heating Engineers	1
Ironmongers, Hardware, & Builders' Sundries	8
Jewellers	5
Leather Goods	1
Licensed Premises	40
Motor Vehicle Accessories	10
Music Shops	3
Newsagents and Stationers	11
Opticians	4
Outfitters	20
Pet Food Shops	1
Pet Shops	2
Photographic	3
Refrigerator Sales	1
Restaurants, Cafés, and Snack Bars	35
Sewing Machines	1
Sports Goods, Cycles and Toys	3
Tobacco and Confectionery	19
Vegetarian Stores	1
Wine Merchants	3
Wool Shops	1
Wholesale Greengrocer	1
Wholesale Tobacconist	1
	<hr/>
	375
	<hr/>

The position regarding service of Notices is as follows:-

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding	
at 1st January, 1959	1
No. of Preliminary Notices served	Nil
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	1
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding	
at 31st December, 1959	Nil
No. of Statutory Notices served	Nil
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	Nil



## AIR POLLUTION

The Medical Officer of Health has commented on the complaints occasioned by the burning of trade refuse.

The other matter which he mentions - the oil smut problem at North Holmwood - is one which has taken up a great deal of time, particularly on the part of the Brick Company, but without any real success being achieved, despite investigations and advice by a number of experts.

Following the first receipt of complaints from residents in the neighbourhood of the Works, and the result of enquiries made, notification was sent to the Brick Company, and arrangements were made for an inspection of the whole production process.

The firing takes place in two continuous kilns of the "transverse arch" type. Both are fired by oil using a modern and up-to-date system of fuel injection developed by a firm which has had considerable experience in this method.

Under the system, oil is pumped from storage tanks under pressure and distributed to a series of "battens", each containing a number of fuel injectors. Each batten is separately controlled, and both the amount of oil and the number of impulses per minute can be predetermined. The fuel injectors feed the fuel through the top of the kiln and are moved forward continuously as the fire travels round the kiln.

Both kilns are fitted with recording pyrometers which indicate and record the temperature of the fire. The oil storage tanks have thermostatically controlled electric heaters to control the temperature and viscosity of the oil.

The kilns operate under induced draught and have full waste heat recovery plants installed on them.

The firing cycle of each kiln is fully under control, the operatives having detailed instructions as to how the firing shall be operated.

The conversion of the kilns from coal to oil firing had been done with the object of improving efficiency and the quality of the fired brick, and also to improve conditions for the operatives who have to "set" and "draw" the bricks from the kilns.

On receipt of the complaints, the Company first took the advice of the technical department of the company supplying the fuel oil, and of the company who installed the apparatus.

An investigation was next carried out by scientists from the British Ceramic Research Association.

There was a complete check on the methods of burning, by management staff and research scientists. A different grade of fuel oil was tried. Experiments were made in the use of additives. Steps were taken to increase the heating of fuel oil as delivered to the kilns.

At our suggestion the Company consulted the Fuel Oil Advisory Panel of the College of Fuel Technology, but a visit and inspection made by members of the panel did not achieve any solution.

Checks were next made on the temperature of flue gases in various parts of the stacks.

As the result of the investigations, a programme of experiments was worked out and put into effect at the end of the year, and the results of each stage were to be assessed.





## Air Pollution - continued -

The Members of the Public Health Committee were kept fully informed of the position, and from time to time instructed the Clerk to inform the Brick Company of their continued concern and to press for an early abatement of the conditions created by the emission of oil smut.

A great deal of the difficulty in this case is due to the nature of the process. Oil smut from an oil burning plant which merely provides power or heat is a more straightforward problem. The smut consists of a combination of sulphuric acid and carbon. In addition to the sulphur which may be derived from the oil, a brickworks has another source - the bricks themselves. Hence the sulphur trioxide which is formed, and which, with moisture, forms the acid content of the smuts, is more difficult to eliminate.

## CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

When writing on the above subject in the 1958 Report, I presented figures indicating the increase in the number of caravans in this District over the last twenty-six years.

In 1959, the Report by Sir Arton Wilson on "Caravans as Homes" was published. At the end of December, when preparing my Report for the Public Health Committee Meeting, I included the following remarks:-

" After reading the Report by Sir Arton Wilson on "Caravans as Homes" it would appear that the majority of the caravan sites in this District show up quite favourably when compared with the general picture throughout the country. This, however, is not a matter for complacency, for one of the basic facts brought out by the Report is that there has been a substantial increase in caravan living in recent years, and it shows no signs of slackening - a fact borne out by experience in this District. It is therefore essential that control should be maintained, and facilities improved whenever possible.

The granting of short-term licences only is not conducive to the expenditure of a large amount of capital by site operators willing to carry out improvements, and in recent years the Committee have recognised this by granting licences for periods up to fifteen years in those instances where they were satisfied that better facilities had been or would be provided. Further recommendations in this connection will be made later.

For many years the Committee specified a density of not more than 16 caravans per acre. This compares with the national average of 20 to 25 caravans per acre, and the Surrey County Council's stated view of 25 to the acre. There is no doubt, however, that strict adherence to the figure of 16 creates difficulties, particularly on the smaller sites, in achieving improvements in sanitary facilities, and more recently the Committee have varied this figure, taking into account the nature of the site rather than its actual size. "

Eight of the caravan sites now have the long-term licences referred to, expiring on 31st December, 1973, and two expire at the end of 1962. Five sites are still subject to annual licences.

When the proposed new legislation becomes operative, a complete review of the situation will be necessary, but it is to be hoped that it will be possible to be realistic about the whole matter, accepting that caravans and caravan sites do fulfil some useful purpose, provided that adequate facilities are available for those who use them, instead of attempting to achieve a completely negative attitude.





## HOUSING ACTS - CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

The speed of re-housing is perhaps the most dominant factor in achieving satisfactory progress in the Slum Clearance Programme, as the completion of the current five-year programme means the re-housing of all the persons displaced and the demolition of all the houses in the areas concerned.

At present it seems very doubtful whether the Council can secure the demolition of all the houses in the programme within the five years' period specified when making their proposals.

During 1959, two more areas were declared as Clearance Areas - one in Lincoln Road, the other in Falkland Road. Orders in respect of these had not been made by the end of the year.

In dealing with clearance areas there have been variations in the numbers of "unfit" houses as compared with what was envisaged at the time of submitting the programme figures - as follows:-

<u>Houses categorised as "unfit"</u>			
	<u>Original list</u>	<u>Final Phase</u>	<u>Variation</u>
Clearance Area No.1.	20	25	+ 5
" " No.2.	59	55	- 4
" " No.3.	6	6	
" " Nos.4.&5.	13	22	+ 9
" " No.6.	4	4	
" " No.7.	8	8 x	
" " No.8.	8	8 x	

<sup>x</sup>Subject to result of any objections and Public Inquiry.

This summary does not include any houses included in Compulsory Purchase Orders under Section 43(2) of the Housing Act, 1957.

The total of 128 houses under the heading of "Final Phase" appears reasonably good when compared with the figure of 149 which appeared in the approved proposals, but as has been said earlier, completion means displacement of persons and demolition of dwellings, and of those listed only the houses in Clearance Area No.1. had been demolished by the end of the year - the same position as a year earlier - although a number of families from Areas 2, 3, 4 and 5 had been re-housed.

Apart from clearance area action, the following properties were dealt with:-

Unfit houses closed (Section 16(4)  
Housing Act, 1957) ..... 1

Parts of buildings closed  
(Section 18) ..... 1

Unfit houses made fit:-

(a) After informal action ..... 33

(b) After formal notice under:

(i) Public Health Acts ..... 11

(ii) Sections 9 and 16,  
Housing Act, 1957 ..... 1



## RENT ACT, 1957

The summary below is indicative of the way in which applications for Certificates of Disrepair - never in large numbers in this District - have almost ceased.

### RENT ACT, 1957 - FIRST SCHEDULE

Period covered - 1st January to 31st December, 1959.

#### PART I - APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

1. Number of applications for certificates .....	4
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates .....	1
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates	
{a} in respect of some but not all defects .....	3
{b} in respect of all defects .....	Nil
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule .....	1
5. Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ..	Nil
6. Number of Certificates issued .....	3

#### PART II - APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

7. Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates .....	3
8. Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates .	1
9. Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections .....	Nil
10. Certificates cancelled by Local Authority .....	2

## PEST CONTROL

The number of complaints under this heading was far greater than usual, for not only were there more in respect of rodent infestations, but Dorking, like many other areas last year, had more trouble from wasps' nests than has ever been previously recorded.

The following pages set out the work done by the Council's Operator, whose willingness to tackle anything is of great value.

### 1. RATS AND MICE -

As last year's Report contained the details submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in respect of the period 1st April, 1958, to 31st March, 1959, those now included deal with a period of nine months only - 1st April to 31st December, 1959 - as follows:-



Rats and Mice - continued -

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cult- ural.
	(1) Local Auth- ority	(2) Dwelling Houses	(3) All Others (including Business Premises)	(4) TOTAL of Cols. 1, 2, & 3.	
1. Number of properties in L.A's. District	10	6642	915	7567	29
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	-	130	29	159	3
(b) Survey under the Act	7	635	39	681	7
(c) Otherwise	-	760	259	1019	5
3. Total inspections - including re-inspections	18	3125	1100	4243	25
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec.2.) found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats { Major	-	-	1	1	-
{ Minor	7	248	19	274	4
(b) Mice { Major	-	-	-	-	-
{ Minor	-	42	17	59	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec.4.) treated by L.A.	7	290	37	334	4
6. Total treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	10	333	58	401	7
7. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Structural Works	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following Notice under Section 4 of the Act	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Legal Proceedings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	61, involving 162 premises.				





Rats and Mice - continued -

Arrangements continued for regular inspection and treatment when necessary at the following premises, a charge being made in the case of business and industrial firms and Surrey County Council establishments:-

	<u>Number</u>
Provender and Seed Mills and Stores	2
Grocery and Provision Merchants	3
Bakehouses	1
Sausage Factory	1
Hotels	1
School Canteens	9
General Hospital	1
Sewage Works	3
Refuse Tips	1
Council Depot	1

2. INSECT PESTS -

(a) Fleas:

Infestations of fleas in a private house and an office were treated by the use of insecticide.

(b) Common and German Cockroaches, and other Beetles:

Infestations dealt with during the year occurred in two hotels, two private nursing homes, two hostels, a convent, a laundry, a Council house, a private house, and the Dorking General Hospital. In the latter case, which continued to be inspected and treated under an annual contract, 39 visits were made, during which the treatments and re-treatments of rooms numbered 185.

(c) Red Ants (Pharaoh's Ant):

14 visits were made to an hotel, involving 77 room treatments and re-treatments.

(d) Garden Ants:

During the contract treatment at the Dorking General Hospital 24 room treatments were given. In addition, the department was called in to deal with infestations at one school canteen, one shop, one Council house and six private houses.

(e) Euophryum confine (Broun):

Treatment and advice against this wood boring weevil was given at two private houses where the infestations are gradually decreasing.

(f) Mosquitoes:

Three ponds, a ditch and an area of marshy land were sprayed with larvicide to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

(g) Bees:

One colony in a porch roof and two colonies in the wall of a private house were destroyed and the tile hanging of three private houses was sprayed owing to persistent swarming of wild bees.

(h) Wasps:

The number of wasps' nests reported as requiring attention was 410 - an increase of over 200% on those dealt with during the previous year.



## Insect Pests - continued -

### (i) Flies:

By agreement with the Education Authority eight school canteens and the Central Kitchen, which prepares school meals for distribution to those schools which have no canteen kitchen of their own, were sprayed with insecticide as a measure of fly prevention.

Premises treated included the Dorking General Hospital where 13 room treatments were given during 6 visits, roof spaces and rooms in seven private houses and one Council house, and the stream and millpond, Meadowbank, were sprayed.

### (j) Furniture Beetle:

Affected woodwork was treated in one Council house, and in two rooms at a house in a Clearance Area (now owned by the Council). Advice was given in other cases.

### (k) Clover Mite:

External walls of two Council houses were sprayed.

### (l) Mill Moth Maggots:

Three visits were made to a hostel where an infestation in the kitchen was dealt with effectively.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year twenty-one visits of enquiry were carried out in respect of cases of infectious diseases occurring in the District. In addition, eight visits were made for miscellaneous enquiries, and four in connection with disinfection.

One bedroom in a Council house was disinfected after the removal of a T.B. case.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licences were issued during the year in respect of the sale of pet animals. Inspection revealed that conditions were satisfactory.



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